

Question for written answer E-003308/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: The ‘escape clause’ gives corporate groups a leg up while ordinary people struggle under the yoke of high prices

The Greek Government is asking for the ‘national escape clause’ to be extended to include corporate groups involved in energy infrastructure projects.

The aim is to promote EUR 1.5 billion in investments for the three-year period from 2026 to 2028, which means more fast cash for corporate groups, stolen from the people's coffers.

While energy corporations in Greece made a record profit of EUR 2 billion in 2025, households have been seeing a steady increase in electricity prices since 2021.

In view of the above, where does the Commission stand on the following:

1. The fact that the ‘escape clause’ will free up more large sums of money from Member States’ coffers in order to incentivise investments in big energy corporations, with the people having to foot the bill at a time when they are struggling under the yoke of high prices?
2. The fact that the EU’s energy policy consists of support and funding measures such as ‘pass’ subsidies – aimed at securing profits for energy corporations (also known as ‘green birds of prey’) and energy infrastructure giants –, which essentially perpetuate the high prices borne by ordinary people and secure profits for big corporate groups?
3. The fact that the energy policy of the EU and the national governments is sending energy prices and poverty rates through the roof, while ordinary people are subjected to decrepit and unsafe infrastructure in an ancient network where corporate groups only promote investment if they are able to secure conditions that will maximise their profit, meaning that the people will continue to foot the hefty bill multiple times over?

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